

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The specification is amended to correct minor grammatical informalities. The changes made to the specification are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter.

Substitute Figures 5, 6, and 7 are submitted herein to correct for a typographical error in those figures by now referring to a "Shift Register", rather than the previously recited "Shift Registor".

The present response is submitted to place the above-identified application in condition for allowance based on the indication of allowable subject matter in the outstanding Office Action.

More particularly, in the outstanding Office Action claims 3-6, 10-13, and 17-20 were objected to as dependent from a rejected base claim, but were noted as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. In the Office Action, claims 1, 7-9, 14, 15, and 21-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. patent 5,909,206 to Yokota et al. (herein "Yokota") in view of U.S. patent 4,769,637 to Forrester et al. (herein "Forrester") and claims 2, 9, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Yokota in view of Forrester and further in view of U.S. patent 5,495,267 to Fujitaka.

By the present response each of claims 1, 2, 7-9, 14-16, and 21-24 is canceled without prejudice. Further, each of claims 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, and 18 is amended by the present response to now be rewritten in independent form. The other dependent claims depend from one of the now written independent claims. The claims are also amended to make minor clarifications.

Thus, the claim amendments are believed to present subject matter indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office Action, and to cancel without prejudice the rejected claims.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,


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